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Telemedicine Shop Talk

There is no doubt that telemedicine will play a huge part in healthcare in the future but telemedicine is a complex topic requiring further discussion. For this reason the Telemedicine Shop Talk was organised in October in Brussels.

Telemedicine holds powerful promises for European health systems in need of adjusting to demographic changes and the rise of chronic diseases. However, implementing telemedicine is hard: It requires changing medical care processes, rules and reimbursement systems, and the mind sets of patients, doctors and carers. There are also technical barriers: Complex endto- end solutions, sensors and devices need to work with other components and legacy systems.

In the Renewing Health project (www.renewinghealth. eu), healthcare providers in nine regions are implementing telemedicine solutions in their existing environments. Three of the pilot sites, Carinthia (Austria), Southern Denmark and Norbotten County (Sweden), demonstrated their solutions, reported on their experiences, and shared their lessons. It was an excellent opportunity to learn about the practical realities, potentials, and limitations of telemedicine solutions.

On behalf of the Renewing Health Industry Advisory Board, Continua Health Alliance invited interested parties from industry, public policy, and the stakeholder community to this morning meeting with representatives from Renewing Health pilots for the demonstrations, discussions and networking.

For more information, please visit: www.renewinghealth.eu

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